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the contradiction in these two sentences, there is considerable history behind each which ought to have produced different statements. Benton of course was not recognized as a Senator and had no right to vote or speak till Missouri was proclaimed a state of the Union. Rogers pronounces Clay "a man of unbridled ambition", "the father of the protective tariff system" and declares that in the Compromise of 1850 "Clay and Calhoun had their way and left a heritage of Civil War to posterity". In this connection he also asserts that President Taylor wished to "try conclusions with the South." Sentences such as these, scattered here and there, force the conclusion that Rogers did not entirely shake off his editorial habit of popular statement when producing a serious historical work. The writing of a biography of Benton for general readers is a serious task, and Rogers has accomplished it.

W. H. MACE.

The Crisis of the Confederacy: A History of Gettysburg and the Wilderness. By CECIL BATTINE, Captain 15th The King's Hussars. (London, New York, and Bombay: Longmans, Green and Company. 1905. Pp. xv, 424; six maps.)

It is not surprising that the campaigns and battles of the four years' war between the American States, and the careers of the great leaders on the two sides should attract the attention and be the study of military students and critics in other lands. But it is surprising that foreign students and war-critics should give such thorough and careful study to these leaders and their campaigns as to produce books that are most complete in their comprehension of all the elements of history, and most accurate in detail. Col. Henderson's *Stonewall Jackson and the American Civil War* as a narrative of Jackson's campaigns, and a study of the strategy of that military genius, is the most complete and detailed ever written. No American writer has produced so full and thorough a discussion and history of Jackson and his campaigns as this accomplished English officer.

The same may be said of Captain Battine's book. No book to this time has given so comprehensive and so accurate a narrative of the Gettysburg campaign, from the standpoint of the impartial historian. Of Henderson it may be said that he had become convinced of the justice of the cause of the Southern Confederacy, and was an enthusiastic admirer of Stonewall Jackson and of the Southern soldiery which followed Jackson. But Captain Battine announces no judgment of the righteousness of the contest on either side. There is a well-guarded reserve as to his convictions and his sympathies. With an impartiality that is we believe unbroken, he studies with great fairness the whole campaign, from the standpoint of a military student and critic. With the politics of the great conflict he has nothing to do, and of neither side is he a partisan. It is one of the great values of this book that it is the work of an author who is neither Northern nor Southern, who has not committed himself to a judgment on the great question at issue, and who is

here engaged in a just and careful study of the critical period of the war, in the interest of military science.

The book is an octavo volume of over four hundred pages, somewhat compactly printed, and is therefore quite a full and substantial volume. Its maps are well prepared, and are, on the whole, accurate reproductions of the country as it was in the time of war. It is not at all a complete history of the downfall of the military power of the Southern States, but it aims to be "a concise account of the most critical phase of this great Civil War." There is no attempt to embrace the elements of weakness that existed in finance, in blockaded ports, in lack of manufactures, in imperfect transportation, nor is there any outline of the campaigns in the West, and the seizure of the Mississippi River.

But with Gettysburg in view, the author gives a brief account of the campaigns in Virginia from the beginning. And this is done to bring the reader to the breaking of the war at Gettysburg, with an intelligent comprehension of the conditions which there existed, the generals who commanded, and the battalions which were now filled with veteran soldiers, who had passed through long marches and well fought battles. Chancellorsville is especially studied as the field from which the invasion of Pennsylvania has seemed to many the logical and necessary conclusion. Then the cavalry engagement at Brandy Station is fully narrated, and the capture of Winchester by General Ewell, and the defeat of Milroy. With most admirable care, Captain Battine has studied many sources of information, and knows well the books both North and South. He is familiar with the topography of Northern Virginia, follows the movement of Stuart in Fauquier and Prince William with intelligence, and gives as complete an account of his daring but mistaken ride to the east of Hooker into Pennsylvania as exists in print to-day.

The great and critical contest at Gettysburg is treated not as a three days' battle, but correctly as three battles on three successive days. There was to both sides the unexpected conflict on Willoughby's Run, three miles west of the town, with its Confederate success. There was the second battle, when in the afternoon of the second day Longstreet at last struck the extreme left flank of the Federal army, and defeated Sickles at the Peach Orchard. And there was the third battle, when on the afternoon of the third day Pickett's column struck the left centre of the enemy's line on the ridge, and unsupported fell back a broken, exhausted wave from the overwhelming numbers holding a strong position. No important part of the struggle is omitted. The condition of the armies on both sides is carefully narrated, the arrivals on the field, the delays, the confusions, the mistakes are told candidly. Many books have been written from many viewpoints, and no doubt sincere attempts to do justice to all have been made. But nowhere we believe is there so just and impartial a narrative of the struggles around the little Pennsylvania town, on which hung so critically the issues of the whole war, and the turning-point of American history.

The author has not failed to see that from the Southern side, the

reasons for failure at Gettysburg are to be found in a number of facts. There was the absence of Stuart and his cavalry, which he attributes to indefinite instructions from the commanding general; the lack of a prompt initiative on the part of General Ewell on the evening of the first day; the unsoldierly recalcitration of General Longstreet, and his lack of sympathy with the wishes of General Lee; and yet more pervading and controlling, the loss of Stonewall Jackson. "With the fatal shot which struck down Stonewall Jackson began the series of disastrous events leading to the conquest of the Confederacy."

The author of this book is an educated professional soldier, acquainted with the principles of military science as taught in the English schools, and as exemplified in all modern warfare. From this standpoint his criticisms are made, and will be regarded, we are confident, with much respect. In his view the Richmond government erred in not concentrating all possible force in Lee's army of Northern Virginia, drawing everything possible from the South and West for the strongest aggressive movement. At the sacrifice of some minor interests, the whole strength should have been thrown into a decisive campaign. Again and again, Captain Battine urges that it was a great mistake in tactics that the cavalry was not kept in operation with the infantry on the field, and pushed in massed columns upon every weakened point. He thinks that on both sides in the American war there was need of a much better staff organization of professionally educated officers, with definite assignments to duty. After crossing the Potomac, the author thinks, instead of going so far afield into Pennsylvania, General Lee should have promptly turned east toward Frederick, and fought the battle near to his communications, and nearer to the enemy's base at Washington. Of Gettysburg, he speaks as distinctly "the soldiers' battle," the Southern soldiers fighting with a courage and sacrifice unparalleled. Their leaders of highest rank did not rise to the occasion, and failed in harmony and concert of action.

We have found it a matter of constant regret that the able and accomplished author of this valuable book has not given in foot-notes references to the authorities on which his narrative is based. He has made an extensive research through the literature of the war. It would have added greatly to the permanent historical value of the book, if he had given the references to reports and personal narratives, with which he evidently has most intelligent acquaintance. We have no reason to question his statistical tables, and we believe that they conform in the main with the reports and statements of Generals Hooker, Meade, and Humphreys, and of the Confederate authorities. But it would have been eminently satisfactory if these sources of information had been cited.

A few errors we have noted, that may not be of especial importance, but their correction in another edition may protect the reader from some confusion of thought: Page 15, the eleventh line from the bottom, should read, "were marching Southeast," not "Southwest"; page 50, "were cantoned South and East," not "West"; page 71, "Field Hos-

pital at the *Wilderness*," not at "Dowdall's Tavern"; page 155, first line, "Lee's messenger found Ewell with Early," Early and his division were at York, quite well to the East; page 122, first line, "Robertson's *Confederate* Brigade," not "Federal."

Captain Battine has done faithful and able work in his book, and it must remain a permanent contribution to the history of the crisis of the Confederacy, the breaking of the wave of the Southern soldiers' victory, when it had reached the very crest of the ridge against which it rose.

J. P. S.

History of the United States from the Compromise of 1850. By JAMES FORD RHODES, LL.D., Litt.D. Vol. V., 1864-1866. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1904. Pp. xii, 659.)

MR. RHODES's fifth volume begins with Sherman's march to the sea and ends with the Congressional elections of the autumn of 1866. The first three chapters bring to a close his long, careful, and thorough narrative of the Civil War. The next two chapters discuss, with equal fullness, the life of both the sections in war-time, throwing light on many subjects never before so well treated in any general work, and setting in a just perspective facts and deeds and men that have too often been neglected. One is glad to find the work of the Sanitary Commission amply described and to see such unobtrusive patriots as Frederick Law Olmsted and James B. Fry taking their places with the captains and the statesmen.

A shorter chapter deals with the most repellent topics that confront the student of the period—military prisons, North and South, and such episodes as the Dahlgren raid and the Fort Pillow massacre. In the opening paragraphs of this particular chapter, Mr. Rhodes, discussing the material for the study of the prison controversy, tells us, with his usual candor, that he cannot claim to have mastered it all; but in those very paragraphs, as well as in the résumé that follows, he exhibits admirably well some of his best qualities as a historian. No subject, surely, could test more severely his patience, fairness, and good sense; and so well does he stand the test that I shall be surprised if any future investigation shall seriously shake his general conclusions. Neither side escapes blame, no part of the revolting story is obscured, and yet intelligent men of both sides will, I fancy, find in Mr. Rhodes's judgments a certain relief. It is war, rather than men, that he in substance chiefly arraigns. When one has finished his unsparing recital of the facts, his portrayal of the hideous sufferings of helpless brave men, it is Sherman's famous saying about war that comes into one's mind. With the maxim, "All the right is never on one side and all the wrong on the other," Mr. Rhodes makes his real summary of the whole wretched business. He thus also incidentally displays the temper in which this volume has been written.

As an excuse for what he would have us consider a rather hurried handling of the voluminous material of the prison controversy, Mr.